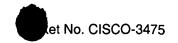


The specification of this subject matter:



## **DECLARATION & POWER OF ATTORNEY**

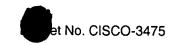
As a below-named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My correct residence, post office address and citizenship are stated below next to my name.

I believe myself to be the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original and first joint inventor (if more than one name is listed below) of the subject matter which is disclosed and claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

"Method and Apparatus for Checking Level of SNMP MIB Support by Network Devices"

X	is attached he	reto.					
	was filed on _	;					
	was assigned	was assigned serial No;					
	which was am	ended on;					
application, do not believ my invention the sale in the U has not been application in representation.	including the claim ve that the claimed in thereof, or patent ereof or more than United States of Amin patented or made in any country foreives or assigns more	ve reviewed and understand the cont s, as amended by any amendment(s) invention was ever known or used in ed or described in any printed publica- one year prior to this application, that perica more than one year prior to this e the subject of an inventor's certifica- gn to the United States of America or the than twelve months (for a utility pat to this application.	referred to a the United S ation in any c the same w application, te issued bef an an applicati	above. I do not be above. I do not be above. I do not be as not in public and that the in ore the date of on filed by me	t know and ca before ny use or on vention this or my legal		
		to disclose information which is mat 37 C.F.R. §1.56(a).	erial to the ex	xamination of t	nis		
for patent or	inventor's certifica	priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. §119 te listed below and have also identific naving a filing date before that of the a	ed below any	foreign applica	ation for		
Prior Foreig	n Application(s)			<u>Prior</u>	ity Claimed		
Number	Country	Month/Day/Year Filed	Yes	No	<del></del>		
Number	Country	Month/Day/Year Filed	Yes	No			
Number	Country	Month/Day/Year Filed	Yes	No			



I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

Application Number	Filing Date	<del>.</del> .
Application Number	Filing Date	

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in these prior United States application(s) in the manner provided by 35 U.S.C. §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

Application No.	Filing Date	Status (Issued, Pending, Abandoned)
Application No.	Filing Date	Status (Issued, Pending, Abandoned)
Application No.	Filing Date	Status (Issued, Pending, Abandoned)
Application No.	Filing Date	Status (Issued, Pending, Abandoned)

I hereby appoint David B. Ritchie, Registration No. 31,562; Marc S. Hanish, Registration No. 42,626; John P. Schaub, Registration No. 42,125; Gerhard W. Thielman, Registration No. 43,186; Adrienne Yeung, Registration No. 44,000; Steven J. Robbins, Registration No. 40,299; William Samuel Niece, Registration No.: P47,824; Nilay A. Shah, Registration No. 45,091; and John Klaas Uilkema, Registration No. 20,282 as attorneys of record with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Please send all correspondence and direct all telephone calls to:

David B. Ritchie
Thelen Reid & Priest LLP
P.O. Box 640640
San Jose, CA 95164-0640
Telephone: (408) 292-5800

Facsimile: (408) 287-8040

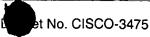
I, the undersigned, declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing therefrom.

FULL NAME OF FIRST Name INVENTOR 1		MIDDLE Initial(s)	LAST Name	LAST Name	
	Niraj		Gopal		
RESIDENCE AND City CITIZENSHIP		State or Foreign Country Country of Citizen		Citizenship	
	Santa Clara	California	India		
POST OFFICE ADDRESS	Number and Street	City	State or Country	Zip Code	
	3665 Benton Street, #129	Santa Clara	California	95051	

I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made upon information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Niver Gobel. 06/13/01.
Signature of Inventor 1 Date





## 37 C.F.R. §1.56 Duty to disclose information material to patentability

- (a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§1,97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:
  - (1) Prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and
- (2) The closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.
- (b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and
  - (1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim; or
    - (2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:
      - (i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or
      - (ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

A prima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

- (c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:
  - (1) Each inventor named in the application;
  - (2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and
  - (3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whon
- (d) Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent, or inventor.